

## Events this Week

**Monday, Feb 23**  
6:00 pm (SJ) Rosary

**Tuesday, Feb 24**  
8:00 am Mass (SH) + Norma Lowrey  
11:00 am (SH) Lenten Book Study: A Place Called Golgotha  
Noon (SH) Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible Study  
Noon (Virtual) Lenten Book Study: A Place Called Golgotha  
5:30 pm Mass (SM) + Kris Geneser

**Wednesday, Feb 25**  
**Religious Ed** - SH, SJ, SM  
Noon All School Mass (SH) + Mary Bartine

**Thursday, Feb 26**  
8:00 am No Mass (SH)  
8:30 am (SH) Adoration  
5:30 pm Mass (SM) + L&D Ortmann & Wade families  
After Mass (SM) Stations & Free Soup Supper  
6:45 pm (SM) Lenten Book Study: A Place Called Golgotha

**Friday, Feb 27**  
8:00 am Mass (SH) + Ed Cline; + Darlene Mosman  
5:00 pm (SM) Fish Fry

**Saturday, Feb 28**  
5:00 pm (SH) Rosary  
5:30 pm Mass (SH) + L&D Samuel Fleck family; + Rita Brim

**Sunday, March 1**  
8:00 am (SM) Rosary  
8:30 am Mass (SM) L&D Laudrini & Polich family  
9:30 am (SH) Rosary  
10:00 am Mass (SH) + Brodie Mosman  
1:00 pm (SH) AI-Anon

### Rosary Schedule

St. Malachy  
Before all Masses

Sacred Heart  
Monday - 8:45 AM  
T, W, Th, F - After Mass  
Sa, Su - Before Mass

### Adoration Schedule

St. Malachy  
Tuesdays - 1 - 9 pm

Sacred Heart  
Thursdays - 8:30 - 7:00 pm

## Sacramental Life

**February 15th** - Adult..\$12,883.25 Loose..\$490.35  
Dollar..\$255.00 SH Improvement...\$5.00  
Briar Cliff..\$25.00 Ash Wednesday..\$45.00  
Aid to Global Churches, \$438.00 Holy Land..\$10.00  
**Total..\$14,151.60**

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Ascension Parish



# Ascension Catholic Parish

## Sunday February 22, 2026

### A Message from Our Pastor - Fr. Tim Johnson

“At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.

He fasted for forty days and forty nights. . .”

Each Lenten Season the Church places the gospel passage describing Jesus’ forty days in the desert on the first Sunday of this ‘forty day journey.’ Maybe it is prudent to listen to one of the great saints of our Church, St. Anthony of the Desert. Since his death in 356 he has been revered as an early Church saint. Born into a well to do family in Egypt, who were Christians despite the persecutions, St. Anthony was inspired by the gospels to sell everything and follow God’s will; and he did just that. His desire was to remove himself from all distractions, thus living sparingly in a desert cave. He was often tempted by the devil, yet remained steadfast in his solitude and faith. Many came to recognize his extraordinary faith and meager lifestyle; yet they were drawn into his humility, his gentle spirit, and sense of joy within his desert existence. St. Anthony of the Desert lived to be 105 years old. Of his many quotes recorded, one exemplifies his life, and our longing: *“The person who abides in solitude and quiet is delivered from fighting three battles: hearing, speech, and sight. Then there remains one battle to fight—the battle of the heart.”* As we consider our Lenten resolutions—what we sacrifice, what we commit to, our fasting, acts of charity and generosity, and our openness to receive God’s forgiveness—may the following reflection on St. Anthony of the Desert provide us with the inspiration and path toward a meaningful forty day journey of faith.

**Know what you’re doing and why.** In order to make any progress on a journey, we need to know where we want to go. The same is true in the life of faith. Without an intention in mind, our efforts will likely feel scattered and pointless. As St. Anthony put it, “Whoever hammers a lump of iron first decides what he is going to make of it . . . Even so we ought to make up our minds what kind of virtue we want to forge or we labour in vain” (Anthony, saying 35).

**Do the work set out before you.** (Anthony, saying 1). The life of faith is showing up; often this simply means doing ‘the thing,’ whatever ‘the thing’ may be.

**Stay with it.** This is such an important piece of wisdom for our scattered culture. We are so prone to flitting from idea to idea, practice to practice, place to place. But stability is a virtue. If we want to see any progress, we would be wise to choose a path and stick with it, until such time as we must choose a new one (Anthony, saying 3) **Take responsibility for yourself.** St. Anthony said that the great human work is “always to take responsibility for his own sins before God” (Anthony, saying 4).

Similarly, when a man asked him to pray for him, St. Anthony replied that there was nothing he could do for him if he wasn’t willing to pray for himself (Anthony, saying 16).

### Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:30 pm Boone  
Sunday: 8:30 am Madrid  
10:00 am Boone

### Reconciliation Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm Boone  
Sunday: 8:00 am Madrid  
11:00 am Boone

We need to be honest with ourselves and with God about who we are and take responsibility for what we do and who we choose to become. **Keep your eye on your own plate.** No one’s journey is your journey; and your journey is the only one you need to worry about (Anthony, Saying 2.) Not only is this a reminder not to judge others for what they are doing, but it’s also a reminder that there are many paths up a mountain. Just because someone else’s path is different from yours doesn’t mean it’s wrong. **Remember that it’s all about love** (Anthony, saying 32). As Jesus taught, the whole Law can be summarized as love of God and love of neighbor. As St. Paul taught, nothing we do matters if we do not love. So does St. Anthony tell us that, while the fear of God may be the beginning of all wisdom, the love of God is its end. (from, “St Anthony the Great: Wisdom derived from Humility”) Ageless wisdom of the desert is pertinent and consequential wisdom for us as Christians today. *God Bless, Fr. Tim*  
*FYI: When Anthony thought about the depths of the judgments of God, he asked, 'Lord, how is it that some die when they are young, while others drag on to extreme old age? Why are there those who are poor and those who are rich? Why do wicked men prosper and why are the just in need?' He heard a voice answering him, 'Anthony, keep your attention on yourself; these things are according to the judgment of God, and it is not to your advantage to know anything about them.'*

## New to Our Parish?

We’d love to welcome you into our Ascension Parish family!



Whether you’re new to the area, returning to the Church, or simply exploring the Catholic faith, we’re here for you. Reach out to the parish office to learn more about becoming a member.

### Parish Office

915 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Boone IA 50036  
515-432-1971  
Email:  
secretary@ascensionboonecounty.org

### Parish Website

www.ascensionboonecounty.org

### Sacred Heart School

1111 Marshall St.  
Boone IA 50036  
515-432-4124  
www.shboone.org

### Our Churches

Sacred Heart  
915 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Boone IA 50036

St. Malachy  
405 Gerald St.  
Madrid IA 50156

St. John  
801 W Division St.  
Ogden IA 50212

## Parish News

### Snacks Needed at Sacred Heart & St. John for Religious Ed.

Help us keep our Religious Education students fueled! We are gratefully accepting single-serving snack donations at Sacred Heart and St. John. Thank you for supporting our children and their faith formation.

### Holy Pause - A Lenten Family Reflection

All PreK–5th graders and their families are invited to take a Holy Pause this Lent. Join us for an hour of meaningful family time featuring a path of creative prayer stations designed to help families lift up their own needs and the needs of others. The evening will also include a small service opportunity and a kid-friendly Stations of the Cross experience. Come slow down, pray together, and prepare your hearts for Easter as a family. We hope to see you there!

**March 11th from 5:15-6:15pm**  
in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall.  
RSVP to  
[dre.sh@ascensionboonecounty.org](mailto:dre.sh@ascensionboonecounty.org)

### Lent A Time of Preparation

CRS Rice Bowl brings Catholics across the United States together each Lent to respond to global hunger and poverty through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. During this holy season, let us recommit to sharing bread for life with our global family so that all people can reach their God-given potential.

Visit [crsricebowl.org/week-1](http://crsricebowl.org/week-1) to read this week's Story of Hope.

### Calling All Star Bakers!

Do you love to bake? Our Gala Dessert Dash is the chance to show off your skills! We're looking for an assortment of "fancy" desserts — beautiful, eye-catching treats that guests will be excited to bid on. Homemade or store-bought creations are welcome.

If baking is your love language, we'd love to have you be part of this sweet highlight of the evening! Please contact the school office to donate.

### Annual St. Malachy Lenten Stations & Soup Suppers

All are invited to Thursday's 5:30pm weekly Mass, followed by Stations of the Cross and a soup supper in Hansen Hall throughout Lent.

And... mark your calendar for **March 4<sup>th</sup>** as we host the weekly Madrid Lenten Luncheon in Hansen Hall at 11:30am.

Contact:  
[marsha@ascensionboonecounty.org](mailto:marsha@ascensionboonecounty.org)  
if willing to help at the luncheon.



### Pray The Rosary During Lent

Pray the Rosary  
Intentions for All Vocations  
Where: St. John, Ogden  
When: Mondays of Lent  
Time: 6:00 PM  
Come join us!

### Art Project Donations Needed

Our SHS 8th-grade students are preparing a special art project and are looking for wooden chairs and a wooden chest to transform with their creativity. Items must be sturdy and not broken (gently used is perfectly fine!).

If you have something you'd be willing to donate, please call the school. Thank you.

### Turn Youth Conference This Saturday!

7th-12th grade students are invited to the Turn Youth Conference this **Saturday, February 28 from 9:00 AM–3:00 PM** co-hosted by our parish at St. Joseph Parish in Jefferson.

The theme is "Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:15) Includes a keynote by Bishop Keehner, breakout sessions, Adoration, small groups, lunch, dirty soda bar, games and more.

An optional after-party at the Rec Center will follow until 5:00 PM. Don't miss this incredible day of faith and fun! Scan the QR code in the graphic on the opposite page to register today—time is running out!



### Ascension Parish Fish Fries

**Sacred Heart:**  
March 6th & 20th from 5-7 pm.  
**St. Malachy:**  
February 27th and  
March 13th & 27th  
from 5-7 pm.  
Dessert donations at SM needed.  
Please fill out the form and leave in pew or return in collection basket.

Or signup here:



**2026 TURN CONFERENCE**  
Saturday, February 28  
9a.m. to 3p.m.  
7th to 12th graders  
St. Joseph Church, Jefferson

**\$20** registration fee (includes a lanyard, name tag, and a keychain at the conference)

**But who do you say that I am?**  
Matthew 16:15

**LAST CALL!**  
Your faith. Your friends. Your TURN.  
**ONLY ONE WEEK AWAY!**  
Sign up today!

### February Nursing Home Bingo Collection \*Last Week!\*

Join our parish in bringing a little "love" to the residents of nursing homes by gathering small items to use as bingo prizes. Ideas: snack-size candy bars, small seasonal decorating items, travel-size lotions, hankies, costume jewelry (necklaces, bracelets, earrings, etc.) and all-occasion greeting cards. Collection baskets at each church.

*This Lent. Lift Up Future Priests and Religious.*

**MONDAY LENTEN ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS**  
St. John Catholic Church - Ogden  
6:00 pm

## Sacred Heart School News



### Gala Dinner Tickets – Please Reserve by Monday!

We're getting close to confirming our final dinner numbers, so if you're planning to attend the Gala, please be sure to purchase your ticket by Monday.

While a small window may remain after that date, submitting our count on time helps us ensure everyone is comfortably accommodated. Grab your denim, add a little sparkle, and reserve your seat today—we can't wait to celebrate with you!



<https://www.shboone.org/gala-1>

### Please Welcome Our New Principal, Elizabeth Pavlik

We are excited to welcome Elizabeth Pavlik as our new school principal beginning this fall.

Liz currently serves as the elementary principal at Franklin Elementary School in Pullman, Washington. She and her husband, Ron are returning to the Midwest to be closer to family with their two young children, ages three and one. Liz is originally from York, Nebraska, and Ron from Indiana.

Please join us in warmly welcoming the Pavlik family to our school community.

**≡ Welcome ≡**